United States Patent [19]

Einbinder

[11] **3,929,216**

[45] **Dec. 30, 1975**

[54] **INPUT KEYBOARDS**

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[22] Filed: **Sept. 4, 1973**

[21] Appl. No.: **394,516**

[52] **U.S. Cl.** **197/100**

[51] **Int. Cl.²** **B41J 5/10**

[58] **Field of Search** 197/9, 98, 99, 100

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[57] **ABSTRACT**

Input keyboards are disclosed for typewriters, computer terminals, and other devices processing alphanumeric information that maximize entry rates and stroking accuracy, and minimize finger motions and the time needed to master the keyboard. A general method is also disclosed of designing such keyboards for any alphabetic language. The invention places the space key and four common vowels directly under the fingers of the left hand, and five common consonants directly under the fingers of the right hand. Two-finger chord strokes generate common two-character sequences belonging to the same hand. The keyboards are split into rotated halves containing curved key rows and slanted key tops of variable height to follow the architecture of the hand. The invention includes keyboards for English, German, French, Italian, Spanish, and Portuguese.

17 Claims, 9 Drawing Figures